

Business Travel and Entertainment

Course Description

Taxpayers are once again looking to CPAs for guidance and planning related to travel and entertainment expenses. This comprehensive mini-course examines and explains the practical aspects of business travel and entertainment deductions. To determine the expenses that taxpayers are able to deduct, fundamentals are reviewed and planning opportunities are identified. Practitioners will learn to master the proper administration of these complex and often cumbersome provisions.

Completion Deadline & Exam: This course, including the examination, must be completed within one year of the date of purchase. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, no correct or incorrect feedback for any exam question will be provided.

Course Level: Overview. This program is appropriate for professionals at all organizational levels.

CPE Credits: 2 (CPA, EA)

Category: Taxation

Prerequisite: General understanding of federal income taxation.

Advanced Preparation: None

Course Learning Objectives

Lesson 1: Business Travel & Entertainment

1. Recognize the “away from home” requirement and related deductions, determine what constitutes transportation and travel expenses noting the tests for tax home and recognize the differences between temporary and indefinite work assignments including their effect on a tax home.
2. Identify the business purpose requirement using the 51/49 percent test, determine deductible conventions and meetings, and specify the limitations applied to meals and lodging when traveling.
3. Determine what constitutes business entertainment noting the deductibility tests of §162 and identify business entertainment activity deduction restrictions.
4. Identify deduction limitations including the percentage reduction for meals and entertainment expenses, specify miscellaneous itemized business deductions and expenses associated with an entertainment facility, and recognize employee expense reimbursement and reporting options including available federal per diem rates and special treatment for the self-employed.